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July 25, 2016

Jeff S. Jordan Assistant General Counsel Complaints Examination & Legal Administration Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20463

> Re: MUR 7050 UNITE HERE TIP Campaign Committee and Timothy Barnes, as Treasurer

Dear Mr. Jordan:

I am responding on behalf of respondents UNITE HERE TIP Campaign Committee and Timothy Barnes, as Treasurer ("Respondents"), to your letter dated July 7, which enclosed a June 30 email to your office from complainant Chris Smola, with attachments.

The Commission has no jurisdiction to notify any respondent of that email and to purport to accord any respondent a 15-day period during which to respond. As Mr. Smola explicitly acknowledges in his email, his communication is not "signed and sworn to by [him and] notarized, and ... made under penalty of perjury and subject to [18 U.S.C. § 1001,]" as 52 U.S.C. § 30109(a)(1) requires. That Mr. Smola originally filed a signed, sworn and notarized letter to the Commission, to which we have responded, does not relieve him of this statutory obligation as to any supplemental filing in this matter. Otherwise, a complainant could freely supplement his complaint without having to verify it as Congress required. Accordingly, Mr. Smola's email does not qualify as a "complaint" that the Commission may serve or that a respondent need address.

Subject to and without waiving that objection, in the interest of concluding this matter sooner rather than later we further respond to point out that Mr. Smola's email alleges no conduct whatsoever by Respondents, or any violation of any provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act, and so adds nothing to his complaint against Respondents.

We respectfully reiterate our June 13 request regarding the Commission's disposition of

this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurence E. Gold

Counsel for Respondents UNITE HERE TIP Campaign Committee and Timothy Barnes, as Treasurer

cc: Timothy Barnes, Treasurer
UNITE HERE TIP Campaign Committee